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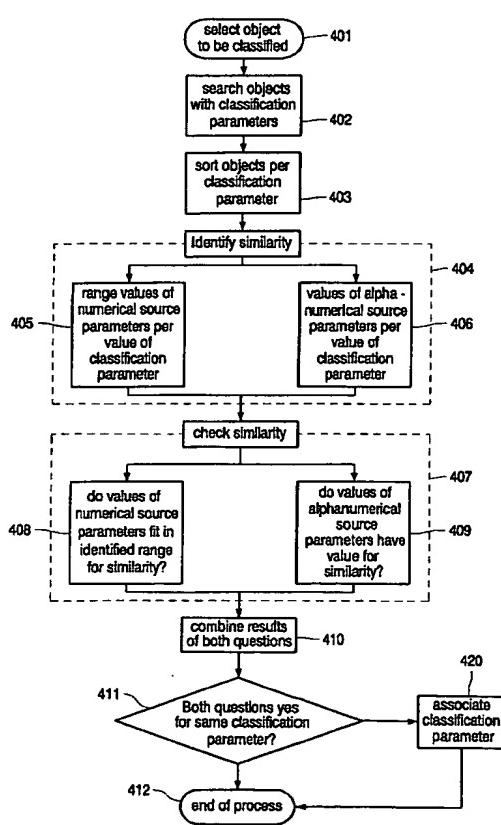
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*[Continued on next page]*

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CLASSIFICATION OF A DATA OBJECT IN A DATABASE



(57) Abstract: Increasing capacity of storage media allows larger databases. This calls for efficient classification methods to enhance retrieval of data objects like pictures and films. Pictures may carry metadata related to date, time and location of creation. This helps retrieval, but combined queries hamper fast search and retrieval because lots of metadata have to be checked. The invention proposes a method of classifying the data objects by associating the data objects with classification parameters. Each classification parameter is associated with a data object when values of one or more metadata parameters fall within a certain range. Advantageous embodiments provide possibilities for automatic classification by extracting criteria for classification from the database itself. This is done by checking similarity between data objects having equal values for the classification parameter. Similarity is based on the values of the metadata related to, for example, creation of the data object.

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, INSPEC

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>HEWAGAMAGE K P ET AL: "Augmented Album: situation-dependent system for a personal digital video/image collection"          MULTIMEDIA AND EXPO, 2000. ICME 2000. 2000          IEEE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NEW YORK,          NY, USA 30 JULY-2 AUG. 2000, PISCATAWAY,          NJ, USA, IEEE, US,          30 July 2000 (2000-07-30), pages 323-326,          XP010511463          ISBN: 0-7803-6536-4          abstract          page 323, left-hand column, line 41 -page          324, right-hand column, line 43          page 325, left-hand column, line 5 -page          326, right-hand column, line 26          ---          -/-</p>	1-18

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## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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